Forest Development Plan Template SUPPLEMENT

July 1999

Revised – April 2001

Ministry of Forests, Forest Practices Branch

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Supplement for FDP Template

Introduction

This document is to be used as a *supplement* to the forest development plan (FDP) template, template user guide, and template map user guide, released June 1998.

Prime users of this supplement are those responsible for developing an FDP.

While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, the supplement is only intended to provide further information on the content requirements of a FDP and how to meet those requirements using the FDP template. It should not be interpreted as ministry policy or legal advice, and it should not be used in place of the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act (FPC)*, the *Forest Act*, and their associated regulations; or in place of direction from the statutory decision maker(s); or advice from your solicitor.

In preparing a forest development plan, there are three important documents published by the Ministry of Forests that the proponent should be aware of. First, the *FDP Template* and its supplemental guide. The template outlines the text and mapping format that a proponent may use in preparing a forest development plan. The *Supplement* provides a legislation reference to the content and component elements of the template. Second, the *Forest Development Plan Guidebook* (currently being revised) provides an explanation of the intent of the legislation pertaining to FDPs, content information and best practice examples. Third, the *Administration of Operational Plans (AFOPs)* guide and Code Bulletins provide advice on all aspects of FDP (and operational planning) administration. These three sets of documents provide coordinated consistent messages to assist you in preparing a forest development plan. The documents may be obtained from the Forest Practices Branch and Resource Tenures and Engineering Branch websites. Or, by contacting forest district tenure administration staff.

Since the June 1998 release of the FDP template, the interpretations of the FDP requirements in the FPC, the Operational Planning Regulation (**OPR**), and associated regulations have been refined. These refinements are reflected in this supplement to the FDP template.

The sections listed in this supplement directly correlate with each section of the template. The information presented in the tables and text of this supplement may have one of the following notations:

Required	Information identified that must be included in the FDP as **required by the legislation**. The comment field will refer to the appropriate act or regulation. Information which meets the definition of known as defined in the OPR is also required. Required information also includes information requested by the district manager under section 41(2) of the Act, to determine if the plan meets the requirements of subsections 41(1)(a) and (b).
Recommended	Recommended information is FDP content information that is not a legislated requirement, rather it is information that fulfills an **administrative** or **business need**. For example, there is no 'legislative requirement' to identify the licensee's address and phone number. However, providing the information, enhances the plan and assists in the administration of the process.
Voluntary	The proponent may choose to provide this information, however, there is no legislative or administrative requirement to do so. The comment column may indicate the utility and merits of providing this information. Some of this information is labeled **optional** in the template. The proponent of the plan may also volunteer information to assist the statutory decision maker(s) in decisions under subsections 41(1)(b) and 41(7)(b) of the Act. (Refer to Section 4, page 14 of this document for further explanation.)

Further information on the format and content of the supplement:

- data elements listed in the left column, link to the appropriate section number in the template;
- required data elements are cross-referenced to section(s) in the FPC, OPR, Forest Road Regulations (FRR), Timber Harvesting Regulations (THR), and/or the *Forest Act*;
- an "*" shown in the front of the first column, indicates information to be added, but currently not listed in the FDP template;
- comments or further information on the data element(s) are provided in the last column;
- at all times, the proponent is directed to communicate with the local forest service district office when seeking clarification on specific FDP requirements.

Since the regulations and legislation change on a periodic basis, the specific section references may become out of date. It is recommended that you always check the latest version of the legislation.

Reference documents include:

FPC Act and regulations;
Forest Development Plan Guidebook;
Forest Development Plan Template User Guide.

Copies of these documents can either be purchased through the Queen's Printer, or viewed at the local library, industry associations, on the Ministry of Forests web site (http://www.for.gov.bc.ca), or at local Ministry of Forests regional or district offices.

This supplement may be found on the homepage of the Forest Practices Branch at *http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/hfp.htm* - under Publications, Operational Planning and Practices.

Covering Letter, Title Page, Table of Contents, Section 1. Introduction

The information in the *Covering Letter, Title Page, Table of Contents* and *Section 1. Introduction* are part of the administrative requirement to identify the plan, tenure, proponent, and associated administrative information. Some of the information presented is non-legislative and is considered "base" or "identifying" information.

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
Covering Letter	Recommended	Business/Administrative requirement
Transmitted	Recommended	Administrative requirement
Approval Request	Recommended	Administrative requirement
Proposed Term	Recommended	Administrative requirement
Title Page	Recommended	Business/Administrative requirement
Period	Recommended	Administrative requirement, identifier
Forest District	Recommended	Administrative requirement, identifier
TSA/TFL	Recommended	Administrative requirement, identifier
Licensee Name	Recommended	Administrative requirement, identifier
Licence Number	Recommended	Administrative requirement, identifier
Licensee Operation Name	Recommended	Administrative requirement, identifier
Licensee Address	Recommended	Administrative requirement
City	Recommended	Administrative requirement
Province	Recommended	Administrative requirement
Postal Code	Recommended	Administrative requirement
E-mail Address	Recommended	Administrative requirement
Phone Number	Recommended	Administrative requirement
Fax Number	Recommended	Administrative requirement

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
Authorized Licencee Signature	Required	Section 10 OPR; states a FDP must contain the signature of the person required to prepare the plan or a person who has authority to sign on their behalf.
Authorized RPF signature	Required	Section 10(1)(e) of the Act; a FDP must be signed and sealed by a professional forester.
Table of Contents	Recommended	Business/Administrative requirement
1.0 Introduction	Recommended	Business/Administrative requirement
1.1 Referral Summary	Recommended	The review and comment process is a legislated requirement of preparing a FDP. However, presenting the schedule in the plan is not. This is recommended information to lay out the proponents review and referral process. This information may be included here, or in the Appendix section. Trapper and guide outfitters names or companies are not to be used. Reference should be to the licence number.
1.2 Referral Process	Voluntary	The proponent has the option to elaborate on the referral process involving the public, First Nations or other groups.

Section 2 - Strategic Plans

The proponent must indicate how they plan to address higher level plan objectives for category A cutblocks. This section provides that opportunity.

This section may also indicate that there are no signed off higher level plans for the area. The information in this section will assist the public and government agencies in the review and comment stage, and may be important to the statutory decision maker(s) in determining whether the plan meets the requirements for section 41(1)(b) of the Act.

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
2.1 Higher Level Plans		
2.1.1 List of Higher Level Plans	Required	Section 10(1)(d)(i) of FPC states that an FDP must be consistent with any higher level plan in effect 4 months before the FDP is submitted for the district manager's approval or given effect. This section can be used to list those plans, and the associated cutblocks and roads affected by the plan(s).
2.1.2 Measures to Address Higher Level Plan Objectives	Required	Section 20(1)(b)(iv) OPR requires for each proposed category A cutblock, a description of the measures of how the plan will achieve any higher level plan objectives. Duplication of HLP objectives is not required. (Note, elements of this may also be addressed in section 3).
2.2 Other Plans	Recommended	Land and resource management plans (LRMP) and sub-regional plans may give guidance on operational activities. A brief description of these plans and how they have been accommodated by the FDP should be given. Other plans may also include operational plans such as range use plans, which have influenced the preparation of the FDP.

Section 3 - Measures to Protect

The latest interpretation of the FPC and OPR requirements for the FDP has revealed a number of weaknesses in the structure of section 3 of the template.

This section deals with three inter-related concepts, "forest resources", "measures to protect", and "known".

The single most important objective of the supplement is to clarify how to use section 3 of the template to satisfy the Code requirements.

Forest Resources and Measures to Protect:

The structure and format of the data or information elements listed in section 3 of the template are based on the definition of forest resources:

> **"forest resources"** means resources and values associated with forest and range including, without limitation, timber, water, wildlife, fisheries, recreation, botanical forest products, forage and biological diversity."[1]

The FPC states that:

10(1) "a forest development plan must comply with the following:....(c) it must specify....(ii) measures that will be carried out to protect forest resources."[2]

Subsequent to the release of the FDP template in June 1998, the Forest Appeals Commission ruled on Appeal No. 96/04(b). The Commission discussed at length 'measures that will be carried out to protect forest resources' and what constitutes a 'forest resource':

> "The Commission finds that the forest resources which are to be covered in the plan are those set out in the various sections of the OPR. Once the resources have been identified, described or assessed in accordance with the OPR, section 10(c)(ii) requires the licencee(sic) to show how **those** resources will be protected - i.e., specify the 'measures' that will be employed to protect them..." [emphasis in original][3]

The interpretation by the Forest Appeals Commission clarified that the forest resources requiring "measures to protect" are those specified in the OPR. Version 1 of the template identifies other forest resources that are not consistent with that ruling.

Resource features are understood to be a sub-set of 'forest resources'. "Resource feature" is defined in section 51(1) of the FPC, and includes those features listed in the definition of 'resource feature' in section

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[1] Government of British Columbia. 1998. *Forests Practices Code of British Columbia Act Chapter 159, Section 1.* Government of BC, Victoria, B.C.

[2] Government of British Columbia. 1998. *Forests Practices Code of British Columbia Act Chapter 159, Section Part 3, Section 10(1)(c)(ii).* Government of BC, Victoria, B.C.

[3] _____ 1998. *Forest Appeals Commission's Appeal No. 96/04(b).* Government of BC, Victoria. Page 25.

1(2) of the OPR. This supplement identifies these resource features and forest resources, and identifies if measures to protect are required to be stated.

Note: the reader is advised to review the *Joint Bulletin on Risk Management in the Application of Section 41(1)(b) of the Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act* (February 12, 1999), published by the Ministries of Forests and Environment, Lands and Parks. This document discusses further implications of the Forest Appeals Commission's decision. The following two paragraphs are exerts from that bulletin.

> Forest resources that are not identified in the OPR are not mandatory content, and licensees are not automatically required to address forest resources in their FDPs that are not mandatory content requirements. Licensees may, however, include such non-mandatory content on a strictly voluntary basis if they wish.
>
> Information provided through public review and comment or agency referral regarding forest resources that are not mandatory content requirements must at least be considered by the licensee and the statutory decision maker (SDM). The act of considering does not necessarily mean the SDM will request that the licensee modify its FDP proposal or refuse to approve the plan. However, the SDM may use section 41(1)(b) to request that a licensee address or consider addressing a site specific forest resource that is not a mandatory content requirement, and in fact has a duty to do so, if the SDM is of the opinion that failing to address the site specific forest resources results in the plan not being adequate to manage and conserve the resources by putting it at an unacceptable risk of being seriously and irreparably damaged. In addition to public and referral agency comments, statutory decision makers are entitled to consider information which they have researched themselves.

Known:

The third related concept is 'known' information. The OPR definition is:

> "**known**" means, when used to describe a feature, objective or other thing referred to in this regulation as "known", a feature, objective or other thing that is
>
> (a) contained in a higher level plan, or
>
> (b) otherwise made available by the district manager or designated environment official at least 4 months before the operational plan is submitted for approval:[4]

The only people who have the authority to make the information 'known' are the district manager and the designated environment official. The information identified as 'known' in this supplement are those items in OPR where it is possible to have been made 'known'. Note that the Timber Harvesting Practices and Silviculture Practices Regulations also have definitions of 'known' that are not identical to the OPR definition. Not all information provided by the decision maker can be classified as 'known'. For example, a guidebook is not 'known'. 'Known' is limited to a feature, objective, or other thing actually referred to by the word 'known' in the OPR. A higher level plan may also make a feature, objective or other thing known as referenced as 'known' in the OPR.

It is important to understand the distinction between known and best information available. The use of best information available is a requirement of the OPR, section 5. In preparing an operational plan,

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[4] Government of British Columbia. 1998. *Forests Practices Code of British Columbia Act, Operational Planning Regulation.* Published by Government of BC, Victoria, B.C.

the proponent is obligated to use the most current and accurate information available to them. Best information does not have the four-month period or rule applicable to known information. The purpose of the four month rule in known information is to provide a formal mechanism and transition period for the introduction of specific planning elements referred to in the regulation that may effect operational plans and harvesting activities. A plan proponent is under no obligation to use known information elements which are made available less than four months before the plan is submitted for approval. Explicit in the application of best information available and known information, is that beyond the four month period, the most accurate (best) known information must be used. For example, if riparian class information made available 6 months ago, is more accurate than information obtained 2 years ago, the more recent information must be used. To assist in understanding what information will go into a plan, many districts hold "expectation" meetings between the licensees and agencies. For further understanding of known and best information, consult the district tenure administration staff.

Section 18(1)(e) of the OPR lists several items that can be made 'known', and then must be included in the FDP. Examples include protected areas and old growth management areas. When identified, most meet the definition of a forest resource. Although most are only to be shown on the map, the 'measures to protect' where required should be discussed in section 3 of the template. The objectives for these 'known' items may be found in the higher level plans. Section 2.1.2 of the template [in accordance with OPR section 20(1)(b)(iv)] is where to state how proposed category A cutblocks, will meet higher level plan objectives. Note, section 3 of the template does not list all the 'known' items from the OPR, but in the mapping section (see section 9 of the template) the location of these 'known' items are required.

In the template, each of the listed resources has a sub-category(s) for the input of specific information related to the resource and measures to protect. Use the following table to determine which resources require information, and which sub-categories need input.

This table consists of five separate columns. The '*Data Element in FDP Template*' column refers to the list of data items listed in the template for this section. The '*Identified as Potential Known Information*' column is a yes/no answer indicating whether the resource may be 'known' as per the definition in the OPR. The '*Is a Forest Resource AND is an OPR - FDP Content Requirement*' column is a yes/no answer, and is based on the Forest Appeals Commission's interpretation. Both columns pertain to Parts 1, 2, and 3 of the OPR for the content requirements of the FDP. The '*Requires Measures to Protect Statement*' column is also a yes/no answer, which indicates whether or not information is required. The '*Comments*' column identifies the appropriate legislation or regulation, circumstances when the resource requires a statement on 'measures to protect', and will provide guidance on further information.

For clarification consult the FPC, regulations, or guidebooks. If you require specific clarification, please contact the local forest district office, Forest Practices Branch, or Resource Tenures and Engineering Branch.

An "*" shown in the front of the first column, indicates information is to be added, not currently in the template.

Data Element in FDP Template NB (1)	Ident. As Potential 'Known' Inform.	Is a Forest Resource AND is an OPR - FDP Content Requirement	Requires Measures to Protect Statement	Comments
3.1 Timber	No	Yes	Yes	Section 18(1)(a), forest cover requirement.
Timber - Resources Identified In A Forest Health Assessment.	No	Yes	Yes	When forest resources identified in forest health assessment, [section 18(1)(t) OPR], have significant risks recorded or disclosed by the forest health assessment required under section 13 OPR.
* Government approved experimental projects, growth and yield plots, ops. trials, & research install.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Where present as a known resource feature under section 20(1)(a)(i) OPR or section 51(1) of the Act, for category A cutblocks.
* Snow courses	Yes	Yes	Yes	Where present as a known resource feature under section 20(1)(a)(i) OPR or section 51(1) of the Act, for category A cutblocks.
3.2 Water	Yes	Yes	Yes	This forest resource is referred to in various sections of the OPR, including 18(1)(b), 18(1)(e)(xii). Also, as a known resource feature under section 20(1)(a)(i) OPR or section 51(1) of the Act, for category A cutblocks.
Water Quality Objectives	Yes	No	No	Water quality objectives are emphasized in OPR - section 18(1)(x). For a community watershed, state the known water quality objectives. The measures to protect pertain to water as the forest resource and are addressed in 3.2.

(1) This table addresses mandatory content elements only. Additional information about other resources may be voluntarily supplied by the proponent of the plan.

Data Element in FDP Template NB(1)	Ident. As Potential 'Known' Inform.	Is a Forest Resource AND is an OPR - FDP Content Requirement	Requires Measures to Protect Statement	Comments
Watershed Assessment	No	No	No	Section 18(1)(y)(i) and (ii) is covered in the template in section 5.1 - Forest Practices Code Variance; and a yes/no re: consistency in table 4.
* Streams, wetlands, and lakes	Yes	Yes	Yes	There are several references in the OPR to these elements including sections 18(1)(b),(e), (h), 20(1)(b)(vii) and known resource features under 20(1)(a)(iii) for category A cutblocks.
* Lic. domestic water supply intakes and related water supply infrastr.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Where identified under section 20(1)(a)(iii) OPR., for category A cutblocks.
* Marine-sensitive zones	Yes	Yes	Yes	Where identified as a known resource feature under section 20(1)(a)(i) OPR or section 51(1) of the Act, for category A cutblocks.
3.3 Fisheries	No	No	No	"Fisheries" is not a specific OPR FDP content requirement. However, related elements are addressed as follows.
* Fish Streams	Yes	Yes	Yes	If known under Section 18(1)(e)(xii)
3.4 Riparian Management	No	No	No	The general objectives for riparian management zones must be stated in the FDP, including the range of basal area retention, by riparian class, section 18(1)(v); for riparian areas of 'known' classification(s) as per section 18(1)(e)(xiii), or determined under 20(1)(b)(vii).
3.5 Wildlife	No	No	No	With respect to wildlife measures to protect are presented through the following elements:

Data Element in FDP Template NB(1)	Ident. As Potential 'Known' Inform.	Is a Forest Resource AND is an OPR - FDP Content Requirement	Requires Measures to Protect Statement	Comments
Known Ungulate Winter Ranges	Yes	Yes	Yes	State objectives for ungulate winter ranges, section 18(1)(e)(ix) and 18(1)(w) of OPR. For proposed category A cutblock(s), also state the measures proposed for management of these areas, section 20(1)(b)(v). Check OPR for definition of ungulate winter ranges. Show on map.

(1) This table addresses mandatory content elements only. Additional information about other resources may be voluntarily supplied by the proponent of the plan.

Data Element in FDP Template NB (1)	Ident. As Potential 'Known' Inform.	Is a Forest Resource AND is an OPR - FDP Content Requirement	Requires Measures to Protect Statement	Comments
Wildlife Habitat Area	Yes	Yes	Yes	Section 18(1)(e)(v) of the OPR. The location of a WHA must not be shown if the DM and DEO make it known that the location is not to be shown. Section 70 (3) - (3.2) OPR, further explains WHA disclosure.
Wildlife Habitat Features	No	No	No	Wildlife habitat features (**WHF**) are site specific features, explicitly addressed at the SP level. Under section 39(4)(a)(vi) OPR, the SP map must include WHFs, and under section 39(3)(m)(iii)(B) the SP must describe the site conditions after harvest to accommodate the WHF. Definitions for WHF and resource feature are provided in subsection 1(1) and 1(2) respectively. In the FDP the proponent may voluntarily make general statements on WHFs, respecting sensitivity and discretion to disclosure of locations warranted by section 20(1)(a)(i).
3.6 Recreation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Where present as a known resource feature under section 20(1)(a)(i) OPR or section 51(1) of the Act, for category A cutblocks.
* Recreation facilities	Yes	Yes	Yes	Where present as a known resource feature under section 20(1)(a)(i) OPR or section 51(1) of the Act, for category A cutblocks.
* Scenic Areas	Yes	Yes	Yes	Section 18(1)(e)(viii)
3.7 Botanical Forest Products	No	No	No	May be a requirement of the SP - as per section 39 (3)(m)((iii).
3.8 Range	Yes	Yes	Yes	Where present as a known resource feature under section 20(1)(a)(i) OPR or section 51(1) of the Act, for

Data Element in FDP Template NB (1)	Ident. As Potential 'Known' Inform.	Is a Forest Resource AND is an OPR - FDP Content Requirement	Requires Measures to Protect Statement	Comments
				category A cutblocks.
3.9 Biological Diversity	No	No	No	Biological diversity is addressed through the following specific elements.
FEN	Yes	Yes	Yes	Where known under section 18(1)(e)(vi).
OGMA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Where known under section 18(1)(e)(vii).
* Protected Areas	Yes	Yes	Yes	Where known under Section 18(1)(e)(i).
* Designated Areas	Yes	Yes	Yes	Where known under Section 18(1)(e)(ii).

(1) This table addresses mandatory content elements only. Additional information about other resources may be voluntarily supplied by the proponent of the plan.

Data Element in FDP Template NB (1)	Ident. As Potential 'Known' Inform.	Is a Forest Resource AND is an OPR - FDP Content Requirement	Requires Measures to Protect Statement	Comments
* Wilderness Areas	Yes	Yes	Yes	Where known under Section 18(1)(e)(iii).
3.9 Coarse Woody Debris	No	No	No	State the general objectives respecting the target levels for coarse woody debris, as per section 18(1)(u).
Wildlife Trees	No	Yes	Yes	State the general objectives respecting the target levels for wildlife trees, as per section 18(1)(u). State measures to protect wildlife trees.
3.10 Cultural Heritage Resources	Yes	Yes	Yes	If location is known and not confidential, otherwise, confidential information not be made public unless prior release from Archaeology Branch. OPR S20(1)(a)(i)
Archaeological Sites	No	No	No	As warranted by section 20(1)(a)(i) OPR, category A cutblocks, disclosure of archaeological sites requires discretion and sensitivity to any negative impacts that could result from disclosure.
3.11 Other	No	No	No	Proponent may **voluntarily** discuss other forest resources pertinent to their operating area. Where additional information about other forest resources pertinent to their operation area, is **required** by the district manager under section 41(2) of the Act, the proponent may include that information in this section.

(1) This table addresses mandatory content elements only. Additional information about other resources may be voluntarily supplied by the proponent of the plan.

Section 4 - Harvesting

This section identifies the '*Data Elements*' listed in the Template, and whether or not they are required. The second column in the table has three categories, *Required, Recommended, and Voluntary*. '*Required*' indicates that this information is a legislative requirement and the appropriate legislation is referenced in the '*Comments*' column. '*Recommended*' information fulfills a business or administrative need. This too is indicated in the '*Comments*' column. Situations may occur where the information is indicated as being 'required' and in the '*Comments*' column the statement begins with 'If'. In such cases, the information is required 'if' the condition identified in the column is true.

'*Voluntary*' is a category where the information may not be a legislative or business requirement, however, the proponent may choose to include the information to assist the statutory decision maker in determining whether the plan meets the adequately manage and conserve requirement of the Act - section 41(1). The proponent benefits by articulating the issues and identifying how the plan addresses those issues. Without the information, there is an inherent risk of delaying the approval as more information may be requested, or the outright rejection of the plan if the decision maker cannot determine if the plan meets the adequate manage and conserve requirement. Presentation of this information is optional and is indicated as such in template.

Map information and identifiers for cutblocks should be linked by the label to the specific cutblocks listed in the table. [For example, on mapsheet 092B-001, a cutblock could be labeled **01-24** (year 2001, and the 24th block), and the table reference would be **092B-001 01-24**.]

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
4. Harvesting Section		
Cutblock Issues Table	Voluntary	Optional
4.1 Harvest Summary Table		
License No.	Recommended	Administrative or business need. Also covered on title page.
Map Reference	Recommended	This is administrative information, linking the forest cover description, section 18(1)(a), OPR.
Geographic Location	Recommended	Can be used as an identifier, fulfilling an administrative requirement.

CP or TSL	Required	If the location of an approved category A cutblock has been included in the FDP, indicate whether a cutting permit has been approved by providing the CP number. Section 18(1)(r)(ii) OPR.
Data Elements	**Required Recommended Voluntary**	**Comments**
Cutblock	Required	Act, section 10(1)(b)(i)(A) and OPR section 20. Provide information on proposed category A blocks.
Gross Area	Required	Section 10(1)(b) Act and Section 11(OPR). As discussed in the FPC General Bulletin No. 20 May 25,1999, for the purposes of Section 11, cutblock area excludes reserves (wildlife trees and riparian), pre-existing roads, and non-productive. If the cutblock is not traversed the gross area less (estimates of) these net downs, should be entered. Refer to General Bulletin No. 20.
Total Harvesting Volume	Recommended	Business requirement to assist in planning, cut control, etc.
Current Category Status	Required	Sections 18(1)(r)(i), 21(1), and (2), 22(1), of OPR. Provide information that determines whether or not protection is available for the cutblock, and type of circumstances when an approval can be re-visited.
Joint Approval Required?	Recommended	Business and administrative requirement. The answer should be N, CW, HLP or M - mutual consent area. Refer to the legend Table 4.1 of the template.
Species Composition	Required	Forest cover information as per section 18(1)(a). Also part of mapping information.
Age Class	Required	Forest cover information as per section 18(1)(a). Also part of mapping information.

Height Class	Required	Forest cover information as per section 18(1)(a). Also part of mapping information.
Crown Closure	Required	Forest cover information as per section 18(1)(a). Also part of mapping information.
Harvest Method	Required	Section 20(1)(b)(vi) of OPR.
Silviculture System	Required	Section 20(1)(b)(iii) of OPR. Indicate whether or not the cutblock will be clearcut. **Note,** this subsection was amended since the template was first published, June 1998 Version 2.5.
BEC	Recommended	Business or administrative need.
Landscape Unit	Recommended	Administrative or business need to indicate if the cutblock is within a landscape unit. State N/A, or if applicable the name of the landscape unit. The location of any landscape units are to be mapped.
Year of Harvest	Required	Section 20(1)(b)(i) of OPR, where timing is critical to the management of non-timber resources.

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
Terrain Stability - Completed?	Required	In accordance with 18(1)(r), the status of terrain stability assessments required under section 16 or 17, applicable for cutblocks approved as category A must be identified. Use the Yes/No/Not Required code.
Terrain Stability - Consistent with assessment?	Required	Section 20(3) of OPR. Use the Yes/No/Not Required code to confirm the cutblocks consistency with terrain stability assessments required under Section 16 or 17 and compliance with the Timber Harvesting Practices Regulation. Confirms eligibility of an application for a cutting permit, based on the conformity of the results and recommendations of the assessment. Where consistencies do not occur, comments must be made in Section 5.2 Harvesting Variance of the template.
Assessment Completed - T	Required	Any terrain stability field assessment required under section 37 of the OPR, must be acknowledged under section 18(1)(r)(i) for approved category A cutblocks. Use the Yes/No/Not Required codes.
Assessment Completed - R	Required	Riparian. Sections 15, 26(2) and 27(2) of OPR on FDP referral, and review and comment. Use the Yes/No/Not Required code.
Assessment Completed - V	Required	Visual Impact Assessment is required at the SP stage. However, section 18(1)(r)(i) OPR states that if an approved category A cutblock has been included, then indicate whether the assessments required under section 37 have been completed. Use the Yes/No/Not Required code.

Assessment Completed - A	Required	Archeological Impact assessment is required at the SP stage. Use the Yes/No/Not Required code. However, section 18(1)(r)(i) OPR states that if an approved category A cutblock has been included in the FDP, then indicate whether the assessments required under section 37 has been completed.
Assessment Completed - P	Required	Pest Incidence survey is required at the SP stage. Use the Yes/No/Not Required code. However, section 18(1)(r)(i) OPR states that if an approved category A cutblock has been included in the FDP, then indicate whether the assessments required under section 37 have been completed.
Assessment Completed - G	Required	Gully assessment is required at the SP stage. Use the Yes/No/Not Required code. However, section 18(1)(r)(i) OPR states that if an approved category A cutblock has been included in the FDP, then indicate whether the assessments required under section 37 have been completed.

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
Assessment * Forest Health	Voluntary	Use the Yes/No/Not Required code. Acknowledgment of this assessment is optional/voluntary. If required, assessment must be made available for review with the FDP. Sections 13, 27 OPR.
*Watershed Assessment	Voluntary	Use the Yes/No/Not Required code. Acknowledgment of this assessment is optional/voluntary. If required, the assessment must be made available for review with the FDP. This also serves as tracking mechanism. Re. sections 14, 27 OPR.

Section 5 - Forest Practices Code Variances

There are limited circumstances where variance from the specifications or legislation and regulation is allowed. This section provides the proponent an opportunity to identify those potential variances and to provide a rationale as to why the FDP should be approved with the variance(s). The main categories for variance can be at a very high level, over the area of the plan, or on a site specific basis. Listed below are some specific circumstances listed in the regulations and legislation where a variance might occur. It is recommended that the proponent contact the local forest service office for guidance when requesting a variance.

Other possible provisions for variances are:

- OPR, Section 11(2)(a) and (b), (3)(b)(i)(ii): maximum cutblock size;
- OPR, Section 18(1)(y)(ii): if an FDP is inconsistent with the results and recommendation of a watershed assessment;
- OPR, Section 18(2): requirements for minor salvage;
- OPR, Section 68: green up requirements; and
- FPC, Section 10(1)(a): period of the plan.

These variances may be requested here or at other stages of operational activities, such as the silviculture prescription.

Data Element	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
5. Forest Practices Code Variances		
5.1 FDP Variance	Required	If applicable, provide the Code reference and rationale for any general variance in the FDP. Example OPR section 18(1)(y)(ii) - in which the FDP is not consistent with the results and recommendations of a watershed assessment.
5.1 FDP Variance - Table - Licence No.	Recommended	Administrative/business requirement to aid preparation and review.
5.2 Harvesting Variance	Required	If applicable, provide the Code reference and rational for any harvesting variance in the FDP. For example, OPR section 20(3)(c)(i) - state the reasons why the FDP should be approved despite not having met the recommendations driven by the terrain stability assessment.
Table - License No.	Recommended	Administrative/business requirement to aid preparation and review.

Table - CP/TSL No.	Recommended	Administrative/business requirement to aid preparation and review.
5.3 Access Variance	Required	If applicable, provide the Code reference and rational for any access variance in the FDP.
Table - License No.	Recommended	Administrative/business requirement to aid preparation and review.

Section 6 - Access Management

This section provides direction on the requirements listed in the table. The relevant sections of the FPC are 18(4.1) and (4.2) for small business, and 19(1.2) for major licences, woodlots, and community forest agreements.

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
6.1 Road Constr., Modification, and Assess. Table		
Map Reference	Recommended	Business/administrative information to link tabular information to map.
Geographic Location	Required	Approximate location of roads FSR and road permit roads. It is not mandatory to show on-block roads which do not provide access to other cutblocks.
Road ID/Permit	Recommended	Business/administrative need to identify the road. If the road permit is available, include as an identifier
Road Name	Recommended	If the road can only be identified by its name and no permit number is available.
Year (if critical)	Required	Section 18(1)(h)(i) OPR, where timing is critical to the management of non-timber forest resources.
Type of Works (construction or modification)	Recommended	Provision of information can assist in clarification on the type of proposed works during the review and comment, and approval stages.
Length	Recommended	Administrative/business requirement to aid preparation and review.
Bridge Type	Required	Section 18(1)(k) OPR, identify whether the bridge is temporary or permanent.
Bridge/Major Culverts Location	Required	Replacement or addition of a bridge or major culvert-approximate location.
In-Stream Work	Recommended	Administrative/business requirement to aid preparation and review. Disclose proposed in stream work.

Date of work if outside of work window	Recommended	Flags work dates for review purposes.
Joint Approval Required	Required	Information should be a Yes/No answer to meet section 41(1), (6), (6.1), and (7) of the Act, and section 2 OPR requirements. Riparian class 18(1)(h)(iv).
Assessments under Section 4 & 5 of FRR completed	Required	Indicate whether assessments are completed for: terrain field stability, riparian, visual, archeology, or soil erosion as per Section 18(1)(i) of OPR.

6.1.2 Interim Road Deactivation

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
6.1.2 Interim Road Deactivation Table	Required	Section 18(1)(n) of OPR, road deactivation operational requirements. Deactivation work is generally shown on the maps. However, road sections that require multiple levels of deactivation may be presented in this interim deactivation table with the highest level presented on the maps.
Licence No.	Recommended	Administrative requirement.
Map reference	Recommended	Business/administrative information to link interim deactivation to map showing highest level of deactivation for a section of road.
Geographic Location	Recommended	Business/administrative requirement.
Road ID	Recommended	Business need to identify roadsection with multiple levels of deactivation. If road permit issued, include as an identifier for section 18(1)(n) OPR.
Road Name	Recommended	Business and administrative need. If the road can only be identified by its name and no permit number is available.
Year of Deactivation	Required	Section 18(1)(n)(i), and (iii) of OPR.
Level of Deactivation	Required	Section 18(1)(n)(i), and (iii) of OPR.
* Type of deactivation	Required	Indicate whether the deactivation is completed or proposed, section 18(1)(n)(i) and (iii) of OPR.
* Type of Vehicle Usage	Required	Section 18(1)(n)(v) of OPR. Acceptable inputs are: N (none), ATV (all terrain vehicle), 4 (4X4), and 2 (2 wheel).
6.1.3 Level of Access Type	Required	Section 18(1)(n)(v). The level of vehicle access following deactivation, may be presented in general in this section or alternatively on the map.

6.2 Access Maintenance	Required	Section 18(1)(m) of OPR, where proponent must identify the access maintenance for the first year of the plan.
6.3 Seasonal Use Access	Required	OPR Section 18(1)(l) - seasonal use. Proponent must indicate which existing roads that are their responsibility to maintain, is are season use roads. Season use refers to the design of the road, not the timing of its use. Refer to Template User Guide section 6.3 for further information.
* Map Reference, Road ID, Road Name,	Recommended	Administrative information necessary to provide consistency in the identification of access management activities. Map reference helps coordinate tabular and spatial information and pertains to section 18(1)(a) OPR - forest cover.
* FS or Permit Road	Required	Section 18(1)(l)(ii) of OPR, where existing access is being maintained, road must be identified as to whether a forest service road or permit road.

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
* Seasonal Use	Required	Identify if the road is being built as a seasonal road or all weather road, as per Section 18(1)(l)(iii) of OPR.
* Link to public road system, processing plant, or log dump	Required	Can provide a written description or enter on the map how the road links with a public road system, processing plant or log dump, as per section 18(1)(l)(iv).

Section 7 - Appendix

Most of this section follows the legislated requirements for review and comment of the FDP. However, part of this section is an administrative requirement, allowing the proponent to show compliance with the requirements for advertising, review process, and incorporation of comments. The legislative requirements are from the FPC, sections 39(1) for major licences, woodlots, and community forest agreements, and section 39(2) for small business, and from the OPR, sections 7, and 25 to 30 inclusive.

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
7. Appendix		
7.1 Advertisements	Required	Section 25 of OPR, a notice must be published, that is acceptable to the district manager, in a newspaper, stating that the FDP is available for review and comment. Copies of the advertisements are to be attached here, as per section 30(a) of OPR .
7.2 Review and Comment	Required	Section 30(b) of OPR requires a copy of each written comment received to be with the FDP.
7.2.1 Letters, 7.2.2 First Nations, 7.2.3 Agencies	Required	Section 30(b) of OPR, the proponent may wish to separate the comments into the three categories provided, letters, first nations, and agencies, or provide in order of receiving them. Separate distinction for First Nations is a recommended approach.
7.3 Summary of Revisions	Required	Section 30(c) of OPR requires a summary of all revisions made to the proposed FDP to be included for proposed category A cutblocks, proposed road construction, modification and deactivation.
*7.3.1 Revisions Table	Voluntary	Presentation of a revisions summary table is optional. Include blocks where concerns were identified, and where no action was taken. Should also include reasons for decision in not addressing concerns.
7.4 Category A Cutblock Issues	Voluntary	The category A, Cutblock Issues table is optional, and assist the proponent and reviewer in tracking cutblock related issues.

7.5 Amendment Log	Recommended	Business/administrative need will be served by including this amendment log in the appendix of the FDP.

Section 8 - Sources of Information

Section 8 provides an opportunity for the proponent to list the information used to develop the FDP. This is one way to verify that the 'best information available' was used as per the requirement in section 5 of the OPR. This option is recommended for use when numerous drafts of a reference document exists, or where conflicting reports exist.

Information provided by the statutory decision makers (**SDM**s) as 'known' can be listed here. (Refer to section 3 of this supplement for a description of 'known'.)

Subject to any requirement to use "known" information, section 5 of the OPR requires plan proponents, when preparing the FDP, to use the most comprehensive and accurate (the "best") information available to them. Where there is uncertainty about what information is in fact the most comprehensive and accurate, it is up to the SDM to make this determination. For example, two reports on the same topic may be available and may contain different and conflicting recommendations. The SDM must then decide which information from the two reports the proponent is to use (the SDM should also be prepared to provide a rationale on the decision).

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
8. Sources of Information	Voluntary	This section provides an opportunity to list the information used to prepare the plan, and clarify the 'best information available', as per section 5 OPR.

Section 9 - Maps

Section 9 refers to the map requirements. Maps define the 'area under the plan' as per section 10(1)(b) of the FPC, and should be outlined (see map user guide for specific mapping specifications). Some mapping information may link to data elements in the text/tabular portion, (e.g. cutblock number) of the template.

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
9. Maps	Required	Required as per section 10(1)(b)(i) of the Act, and sections 18, 19, and 20 of the OPR.
9.1 Key Map	Voluntary	Recommend inclusion if numerous maps provided in FDP.
9.2 List of Maps and Overlays	Voluntary	
9.A Map Legend Contents		Section 10(1)(i) of the *FPC Act*, and sections 18, 19 and 20 of OPR.
Period of Harvest	Required	If timing critical to management of non-forest resources, section 20(1)(b)(i).
Category A Cutblock	Required	Sections 18(1)(q) and (r) OPR. Recommend standardization of cutblock(s) information. In tables, cross reference the block through map label, with attribute information in data base. Example: cutblock type (information or category A), status (proposed or approved), green-up (yes or no), salvage (yes or no), SR/NSR, silviculture system (clearcut or partial), area, and CP issued (yes or no).
Category I Cutblocks	Voluntary/ Required	Inclusion of information cutblocks is voluntary. If presented, the requirements are defined in section 19(1) OPR.
Salvage Cutblock	Recommended	Expedited salvages should be mapped, other salvage such as pest or blowdown can be addressed through a 'statement' in the FDP.
TSL/Cutting Permit	Required	Section 18(1)(r) identification of blocks where a cutting permit is issued.
Partial Cut Silviculture System	Required	The map legend provide symbology for partial cut silvicultural systems. By default, cutblocks without this symbol are clearcut - fulfilling the requirements of section 20(1)(b)(iii).

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
		Information can be shown on the map, but must be covered in Table 4.1 of the template.

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
Adjacent Licensee Cutblock	Required	Section 18(1)(s) OPR, assists in determining whether or not adjacent blocks are have reached green-up.
Cutblock Label	Recommended	Business need or administrative requirement for identification of cutblocks when cross-referencing the text/tabular portion of FDP. Use licensee label system and licence number. Cutting permit number or TSL can also be attached to the cutblock. The labeling of the licensee name may be eliminated where a licensee is the sole operator within a chart area. Repeated labeling of the licensee name can be avoided by labeling the names on other licensees cutblocks.
Forest Cover	Required	Section 18(1)(a) of OPR.
Harvested & NSR	Required	Section 18(1)(s) OPR, determines whether or not green- up is achieved.
SR & Not Greened-Up	Required	Section 18(1)(s) OPR, determines whether or not green-up is achieved.
SR & Greened-Up	Recommended	Business or administrative need. This symbol conveys to the public and other reviewers the extent of SR & Greened-up cutblocks.
Forest cover type line	Required	Provide as per the map base, forest cover - section 18(1)(a).
Forest type	Required	Provide as per the map base, , forest cover - section 18(1)(a).
Contour Index - (definite)	Required	Section 18(1)(b) OPR, from the TRIM file.
Contour Index- intermediate	Required	Section 18(1)(b) OPR, from the TRIM file.
Mapping Features		
Dam	Recommended	Provide as per the map base, business/administrative requirement.
Dike	Recommended	Business/administrative requirement. Provide as

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
		per the map base.
Marsh	Required	Provide as per the map base. Section 18(1)(b).
Mine	Recommended	Business/administrative requirement. Provide as per the map base.
Pit	Recommended	Business/administrative requirement. Provide as per the map base.
Quarry	Recommended	Business/administrative requirement. Provide as per the map base.
Rock	Recommended	Business/administrative requirement. Provide as per the map base.
Swamp	Required	Provide as per the map base. Section 18(1)(b).
Tower	Required	Provide as per the map base. Section 18(1)(f) - utilities.
Well - gas/oil/water	Required	If considered known, section 18(1)(f).

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
Well with pump	Required	If considered known, section 18(1)(e)(xi) OPR.
Streams and Wetlands		
Riparian stream class S1-S4 Fish	Required	If known, section 18(1)(e)(xiii) OPR. Proponent should label each stream with the classification provided and use a separate symbol for a fish stream.
Riparian stream class S5-S6 No fish	Required	If known, use the S5 and S6 classification, section 18(1)(e)(xiii) OPR. 'No fish' is covered above.
Community watershed class S1-S4 No fish	Recommended	Section 15 OPR requires riparian assessment for streams, wetlands and lakes that are in or adjacent to proposed cutblocks and roads in joint approval areas. Indication of "no fish" specification for streams in a community watershed is a business requirement as the window for road construction or operations may be different for fish streams. The no fish symbols NS1 to NS4 cover this map item.
Fish habitat inventory - unclass. Fish stream	Required	If known, under section 18(1)(e)(xii) OPR, covered with unclassified fish stream symbol..
Fish habitat inventory - unclass. No fish stream	Voluntary	Section 18(1)(b) requires stream, wetland and lake information from fish and fish habitat inventory maps to be included in the FDP. The proponent may voluntarily indicate a stream is unclassified - no fish, based on the information from these maps. However, this must only be done where the maps indicate "no fish present".
Unclassified streams - indefinite, definite	Required	Section 18(1)(b), provide as per the map base.
Rivers/lakes/ocean	Required	Provide as per the map base, section 18(1)(b) OPR.

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
Riparian Wetlands class. W1-W5.	Required	If known, section 18(1)(e)(xiii) OPR.
Riparian Wetlands - unclassified	Required	Provide as per the map base, section 18(1)(b) OPR.
Riparian Lake Classification	Required	If known, section 18(1)(e)(xiii) OPR.
Public Utilities - Transmission lines, pipeline, railway	Required	Section 18(1)(f) OPR.
Log Handling		
Dryland Sort, Water Sort, Log Dump	Required	For a road providing access, and is required to be maintained by the person, the log dump location (including dryland or water sort) is required, section 18(1)(l)(iv) OPR. Description or map.

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
Mill Site	Required	Illustration of the millsite required as per section 18(1)(l)(iv). Describe or map.
Helicopter log drop area	Required	For water areas only, section 20(1)(b)(ii) OPR.
Balloon log drop area	Required	For water areas only, section 20(1)(b)(ii) OPR.
Access Management		
Bridge - existing - temp/perm	Recommended	Business or administrative need.
Bridge - proposed - temp/perm.	Required	Section 18(1)(k) OPR.
Bridge and Culvert station number	Recommended	Business/administrative requirement.
Culverts - existing and proposed	Voluntary	
Highway	Required	Section 18(1)(l)(iv). Provide as per the map base.
Secondary Road	Required	Section 18(1)(l)(iv). Provide as per the map base.
Road	Required	If proponent is required to maintain, section 18(1)(l) OPR.
Trail	Required	If provided on forest cover or TRIM file, or identified as a resource feature as per section 20(1)(a)(i) OPR.
Road Label	Recommended	Business and administrative necessity to provide a label linking the mapped road section to the access table in the template.
Seasonal Road Label	Required	Either on the map or in the table, section 18(1)(l) of OPR. For those roads maintained by the proponent.
Road Barrier - temp. and perm.	Required	Section 18(1)(p) of OPR. Locations where barriers to vehicle access exist.
Road Barrier - proposed -	Recommended	Identifying proposed road barrier fulfills a business need for the proponent and interested parties.

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
temp. and perm.		
Road Category I	Voluntary/ Required	Spatial representation of such roads is voluntary. If presented, it must be in accordance with requirements of Section 19(2) OPR.
Road Constr. / Modif. - proposed	Required	Section 18(1)(h) OPR. Approximate location of proposed road construction and modification.
Road Deactivation	Required	Section 18(1)(n)(i)-(iv) OPR. Show all roads permanently deactivated during the previous year; and roads currently deactivated to temporary and semi- permanent levels; and the proposed deactivation of the roads for first 3 years of the plan. Table 6.1.2 - Interim Road Deactivation may be used for roads sections with multiple levels of deactivation, to avoid cluttering the map. In such cases, the highest level of deactivation should be presented on the map.
Management Areas		
Cultural Heritage	Required	If location is known and not confidential, otherwise, confidential information not be made public unless prior release from Archaeology Branch.
Designated Area	Required	If known, section 18(1)(e)(ii) OPR.
Ecological Reserve	Recommended	Business requirement, generally part of base coverage.
* Protected Area	Required	If known, and identified as a protected area, section 18(1)(e)(i) OPR.
FEN	Required	If known, Section 18(1)(e)(vi) OPR.
Indian Reservations	Required	Section 20(1)(a)(ii) OPR, private property.
Legal Lot	Required	Section 20(1)(a)(ii) OPR, private property, or included on forest cover base map.
Management Areas		

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
* Marine-sensitive zone	Required	If considered a 'known resource feature' under section 20(1)(a)(i) OPR or section 51(1) of the Act, for category A cutblocks.
Old Growth Management Area	Required	If known, section 18(1)(e)(vii) OPR.
Operability Line	Required	If required by the district manager, section 18(1)(d) OPR.
Plus Tree	Voluntary	Recommend if information is available.
Private Land	Required	If known, section 20(1)(a)(ii) OPR.
Protected Areas and Parks & label	Required	If known, protected areas - section 18(1)(e)(i) OPR. Parks - section 20(1)(a)(ii) OPR on private land.
Scenic Area Boundary	Required	If known, section 18(1)(e)(viii) OPR.
* Snow courses	Required	If considered a 'known resource feature' under section 20(1)(a)(i) OPR or section 51(1) of the Act, for category A cutblocks.
Special Use Permit	Voluntary	
Ungulate Winter Range	Required	If known, section 18(1)(e)(ix) OPR.
Wilderness Area	Required	If known, section 18(1)(e)(iii) OPR.
Wildlife Habitat Areas	Required	If known, section 18(1)(e)(v) OPR.

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
Wildlife Tree Patch	Voluntary	Must be shown on the SP - section 39(2)(d).
Watersheds - lic. Domestic water supply intake	Required	If known, section 20(1)(a)(iii) OPR.
Community Watersheds, & water supply intake	Required	If known, section 18(1)(e)(xi) OPR.
Government Approved Exper. Trials.	Required	If considered a 'known resource feature' under Section 20(1)(a)(i) OPR or Section 51(1) of the Act, for category A cutblocks. Includes growth and yield plots, operational trials, and research installations.
Higher Level Plans - LU, and RMZ.	Recommended	This fulfills a business requirement as it is beneficial to the proponent and reviewers to know the HLP boundaries.
- Sensitive Areas	Required	If known, section 18(1)(e)(iv) OPR.
Recreation Areas:	Required	If considered a 'known resource feature' under section 20(1)(a)(i) OPR or section 51(1) of the Act, for category A cutblocks. Recommend to provided designated sites and trails.
Terrain slope and Stability Mapping		
High likelihood	Required	If mapped on terrain stability hazard map, section 18(1) (c)(i)(A) OPR.
Moderate likelihood	Required	If mapped on terrain stability hazard map, section 18(1)(c)(i)(A) OPR.
Terrain Stability	Required	Section 18(1)(c)(i)(B) OPR.
Terrain Mapping In Community Watershed	Voluntary	Covered in assessment.

Data Elements	Required Recommended Voluntary	Comments
Terrain Mapping Outside Community Watershed	Voluntary	Covered in assessment.
Terrain Boundary	Required	To delineate terrain stability hazard boundary only. Identification for section 18(1)(c)(i)(A) and (B) OPR.
Terrain Slope Gradient >60%	Required	If providing for section 18(1)(c)(i)(C) OPR.
Range Developments	Required	Provide as per the source files. Required as per section 20(1)(a)(i).

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Ministry of Forests

Forest Practices Branch

MEMORANDUM

File: 285-20/FDP Template

May 9, 2001

To: Industry Associations
Forest Practices Board
Regional Directors, Ministry of Environment, Lands, and Parks
Regional Managers, Ministry of Forests
District Managers, Ministry of Forests

From: Ralph Archibald

Re: Forest Development Plan Template – Minor Changes

The Operational Planning Standardization Team, a joint Ministry of Forests and Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks and forest industry group, released the original provincial forest development plan (FDP) template (Version 2.5) in June 1998. Designed to improve the preparation, review and comment process for forest development planning, the template has received widespead use.

Changes to legislation and suggestions from the Forest Practices Board's special project report on forest development planning (December 2000) have warranted minor changes to the template and a new Version 2.6. The Supplement (July 1999) which provides a legislative reference for the template, and the User Guide have also been modifed. The second page of the User Guide outlines the changes.

Version 2.6 of the FDP template can be found at the following InterNet address:
www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/Branches/Information_Systems/external/!publish/Web/FDPTemplate.

If you have any questions please contact Sheldon Gagne A/Senior Harvesting Practices Forester at (250) 356-2081 Sheldon.Gagne@gems7.gov.bc.ca .

Ralph Archibald
Director
Forest Practices Branch

original signed by R. Archibald

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